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State Board Endorses 'Voice' For Students at Southern

BATON ROUGE (AP) — The state Board of Education today endorsed a report recommending more of a voice in administrative matters for students at Southern University.

The board took the action on a set of recommendations compiled by a special study committee and issued Dec. 8, two weeks after students and police clashed on Southern University's Baton Rouge campus.

Two young blacks died in the violence.

The report, which called for the creation of departmental councils with student membership, was accepted by the board in a telephone poll.

Board member Robert Corry of Shreveport and Charles Colbert of Metairie offered the only objection.

THE STUDY committee, headed by board president Rouge, issued its recommendations in response to complaints from students they Jesse Bankston of Baton had too little say in the running of the school.

The committee looked into the problem as protests rocked Southern University's campuses in Baton Rouge and New Orleans.

The student committee recommended in addition that the board include students in any search for a new president of the Southern system.

Students have demanded the ouster of Southern University's president, Dr. G. Leon Netterville, but the board so far has refused to fire the 65-year-old administrator.

STILL AHEAD of the board for consideration is a series of proposals drafted by Southern administrators which also would give students more decision-making power.

The board waded into a foot-high stack of budget proposals Thursday, approved several without comment and made minor adjustments in others. A final okay will come in several weeks, and the proposals will go on the Legislative Budget Committee.

The 11-member panel abruptly recessed its consideration of budget requests to spend more than an hour behind closed doors, presumbaly discussing the Southern situation.

BANKSTON CALLED the executive meeting shortly after returning from state district court. Southern administrations have asked the court to bar nine student protest leaders from the campus.

Officials contend the nine attended unauthorized meetings and encouraged class boycotts during the weeks of turmoil which preceded a clash between police and students on the school's Baton Rouge campus.